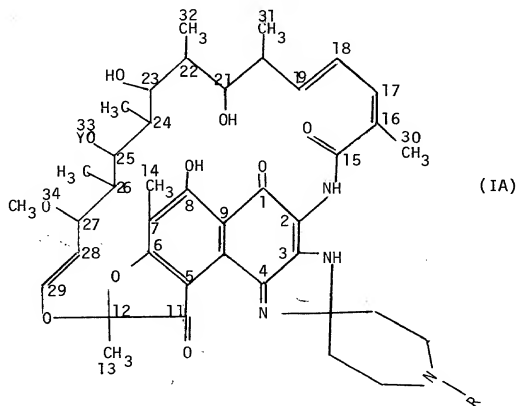


Page 4, between lines 3 and 4, insert as a separate paragraph:

--Rifamycin compounds having antibiotic activity of formula



wherein R is a radical selected from the group consisting of linear alkyl having 4 to 8 carbon atoms, branched alkyl having 4 to 8 carbon atoms, alkenyl having 3 or 4 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl having 3 to 7 carbon atoms, alkyl-furyl having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, alkyl tetrahydrofuryl having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, alkanoyl having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, and monohaloalkanoyl having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, and Y is -H or -COCH₃, and their preparation, are the subject of the present invention. Also included in the present invention are 16, 17, 18, 19-